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Minutes

Council on Academic Affairs

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## MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

02-04-99

The February 4, 1999, meeting of the Council on Academic Affairs was held at 2:00 p.m. in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the MLK Union.

Members present: Dr. Abebe, Dr. Addison, Dr. Bock, Ms. Gillette, Dr. Hanner, Dr. T. Mason, Dr. McCormick, Dr. Obia, Dr. Owen, Ms. Riley, Dr. Wilkins, Dr. Wohlstein.  
Members absent: Mr. Brinkmeyer.  
Staff present: Ms. Herrington-Perry, Mrs. Rawlings, Academic Affairs.  
Guests present: Dr. K. Andrew, Ms. D. Barker, Ms. S. Higgins, Dr. W. Hine, Dr. E. Keiter, Ms. M. Kelm, Mr. M. May, Ms. R. Pearson, Mr. C. Tozer, Dr. Wall, Dr. Whittenbarger.

### I. Minutes.

The Minutes of January 28, 1999, were approved as published.

### II. Correspondence.

1. Academic Waiver Report from the Appeals Committee for Fall 1998.
2. Chair Addison informed the Council that a committee (The Assessment Plan Task Force) has been formed to develop an assessment plan. The committee members are: Cheryl Hawker, John David Moore, Christie Roszkowski, Chuck Costa, Kathlene Shank, Jim Johnson, Lida Wall, Bill Addison, and Sara Groom (student). Resource persons for the committee: Mary Herrington-Perry and Kim Oren. Chair Addison will keep the Council updated.

### III. 99-9 Catalog Revision, Credit Earned Section.

Dr. Wilkins moved and Ms. Riley seconded the motion to add this item on the agenda. Voting will take place later.

### IV. 99-8 A.P.S. Degree and Transferability.

Dr. Ellen Keiter, Chemistry, Dr. Tim Mason, Economics, and Dr. Ron Wohlstein, Sociology, presented the proposal and answered questions of the Council. The motion to accept the responses was approved unanimously.

This action approves the following:

#### **RESPONSE TO THE IBHE REGARDING THE A.P.S. DEGREE**

##### **1. Which path would you prefer students to complete who plan to transfer to your school? The A.S.? The proposed A.P.S.? Why?**

The most important consideration is that students transferring to EIU as chemistry majors should enter as juniors *in the major* so that their chances of completing baccalaureate requirements in an additional four semesters are equivalent to those of native chemistry majors who are juniors. To enter as junior chemistry majors, transfer students must complete sequences of courses in general chemistry, organic chemistry, general physics, and calculus prior to transfer. To earn the A.S. degree, they must also complete the IAI General Education Core curriculum. The total number of hours involved in this combination of major and general education requirements puts at risk students' ability to complete the A.S. degree in two years. For many students, the A.P.S. alternative will be preferable because its distribution of coursework in the major and general education at the two- and four-year institutions optimizes the potential for earning a baccalaureate degree in a total of four years. The A.P.S. plus bachelor's combination also more closely matches the program of study for chemistry majors who complete their entire BS/BA program at a four-year institution. For these reasons, we prefer the A.P.S. degree.

##### **2. What happens at your school to transfer students who completed the maximum credits in each course if your school offers the courses for the minimum credits?**

Eastern honors the number of credit hours the student actually earns in the course. If a student completes a four-hour community college course, s/he receives four credit hours, even if the comparable EIU course is

worth fewer hours. A student who completes a course worth three credit hours at a community college but worth four credit hours at EIU student receives three hours of credit.

**3. How would your school treat the general education courses completed by transfer students who earn the proposed A.P.S. (but who do not complete the General Education Core Curriculum)?**

Students graduating with the proposed degree (A.P.S.) would come to Eastern without having completed the IAI General Education Core Curriculum (GECC). Specifically, they would lack either one course in Humanities/Fine Arts and one course in Social and Behavioral Science or two courses in one of these areas (according to our requirements for similar areas).

Because we currently have a general education core that is not transferable on a course-by-course basis with the IAI GECC, dealing with the new A.P.S. degree is problematic. The most clear-cut and direct approach is to accept that the student has completed his or her transferable general education core with the exception of the deficiency noted above. To make up for that deficiency, we would require that the student take the appropriate two classes at Eastern. This could be accomplished by the student's taking the two upper-division general education courses we require for graduation in the areas of the identified deficiency. The student would not be required to double count, but the option to double count would make transferring to Eastern more desirable.

Courses similar to IAI Humanities/Fine Arts can be found in Eastern's Cultural Experience segment, and those comparable to the IAI Social and Behavioral Science courses appear in the Human Behavior, Social Interaction and Well-Being segment. (The Foundations of Civilization segment also includes some courses in Humanities/Fine Arts and Social and Behavioral Science.) Thus, if the student is deficient three-to-six hours in IAI Humanities and Fine Arts, s/he would take upper-division core courses from Cultural Experience. If the student is deficient three-to-six hours in Social and Behavioral Science, s/he would take courses from either Human Behavior, Social Interaction, and Well-Being or Foundations of Civilizations. In sum, the student would make up the GECC deficiency by completing courses in those areas of Eastern's general education program most comparable to IAI core curriculum requirements.

**4. Would your school accept and apply both the General Education Core Curriculum package and the lower-division major courses necessary even if the student might then be over 60-64 semester credits?**

If a student transfers more than 64 hours, EIU will accept the credit. However, s/he must still complete EIU's graduation requirements, including earning 56 semester hours from a senior-level institution, 42 hours in residency, and 40 upper-division hours from a senior-level institution. Such a student may graduate with more than 120 hours.

**V. 98-59 Review of General Education.**

The Council discussed each of the following subcommittee reports. Possible additions/clarifications are noted:

**Scientific Awareness and Quantitative Reasoning:**

Dr. Hanner presented the subcommittee report and answered questions of the Council.

Scientific Awareness Segment:

Additional Suggestions: All lower division courses must include a lab  
The general education program should include the introductory courses in the major

Quantitative Reasoning Segment:

Additional Comments: PHI 1900C includes problem-solving  
Some of MAT courses do not include problem-solving

**Foundations of Civilization:**

Dr. Obia and Dr. Mason presented the subcommittee report and answered questions of the Council.

Additional Comments: Revise the segments' intention to include "Students should come to understand how landmark documents and events have affected human events."

**Cultural Experiences - Philosophy and Literature, Fine Arts Component:**

Dr. Owen and Dr. McCormick presented the subcommittee reports and answered questions of the Council.

**Philosophy and Literature:**

Comments:        Include introductory courses  
                      Should PHI 1900C be in this section?

Discussion will continue on this agenda item at next week's meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Billie Rawlings, Recording Secretary.

**All Council Minutes and Agenda are available on the Web at <http://www.eiu.edu/~eiucaa>.**

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**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING**

**February 11, 1999, 2 p.m.**

**Arcola/Tuscola Room - MLK Union**

Agenda: 98-45    Revision of the Academic Load Policy. (Postponed until more information is received.)  
          98-46    Revision of the Withdrawal Policy. (Postponed until more information is received.)  
          98-59    Review of General Education.  
          99-9    Catalog Revision, Credit Earned Section.